THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The requests in the petition have been examined in consultation with the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and the Collector.

It is proposed to provide screw-gearing shutters to the existing scour vents in the anicut and also construct five additional scour vents with screw-gearing arrangements. It is also proposed to excavate a leading channel in the river bed upstream of the scour vents and to construct a few groynes on the left side upstream of the point where there is a concave bend of the river, with a view to encourage accretion on the left side and to divert the flow on to the right. The Superintending Engineer has been instructed to carry out the above improvements expeditiously as it is expected that after these are carried out there will be sufficient heading up of water in front of the anicut."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவை ஸர்பிளஸ் ஏரியா என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் சிதம்பரம் தாலூகாவைத் தவிர மற்ற இடங்களெல்லாம் வறண்ட பூமியாக இருப்பது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். ஆகையால் சிதம்பரத்திற்கு அருகாமையில் ஓடும் வெள்ளாற்றின் ஜலத்தை வடலூர் பக்கத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய பின்னலூர் வழியாகத் திருப்பி வறண்ட பூமியாகிய குறிஞ்சிப்பாடி, குள்ளஞ்சாவடி போன்ற இடங்களுக்கு நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி செய்து கொடுக்க முடியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is a separate question. That has no bearing on the question that has been put here."

Utilization of the waters of the Palar river for irrigation purposes in North Arcot and Chingleput districts.

* 274 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the details of the agreement, if any, reached hitherto between the Governments of Madras and Mysore in the matter of letting out the waters of the Palar river for purposes of irrigation in North Arcot and Chingleput districts in Madras State ;

(b) whether the Madras Government have investigated into the causes for the present fall in the freshes in the Palar river flowing into Madras territory, and if so, what they are;

(c) whether the Madras Government have taken up the matter with the Mysore Government, and if so, with what result and whether the Government will be pleased to place the correspondence on the table of the House;

(*d*) whether the Madras Government addressed the Central Government to effect a settlement with the Mysore Government in the matter of letting out the waters of the Palar river for irrigation purposes in Madras territory and if so, when and whether any further move has been made in the matter; and

(*e*) whether any representations have been received by the Madras Government from the ryots of Palar basin in this matter and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The Palar is one of the rivers coming within the scope of the agreement of 1892 between Madras and Mysore Governments and no new anicut or reservoir which would result in the diversion of water from the river beyond certain limits can be constructed by Mysore without the previous consent of Madras. An understanding was reached in regard to the Bethamangalam tank in Mysore State in 1902 when the Mysore Government proposed to increase the capacity of the Bethamangalam tank. They then agreed that the waters of this tank would be used only for domestic and industrial purposes of the Kolar Gold Fields and that the yearly draw-off of 72 m.c.ft. would not at any time be increased by them without a previous reference to the Madras Government. In 1933 the Mysore Government agreed to examine whether, and to what extent, it would be possible to supply the information asked for by the Madras Government and if so, at what cost.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Certain suggestions made in 1949 for getting more water in the Palar were examined by the Government in consultation with the Chief Engineer, but it was ultimately found that no steps could be taken as suggested. But the question of unlawful interception of supplies in the river in the limits of Mysore had been examined from time to time during the previous three decades and in that process the Government of Mysore had been addressed for information several times and the information actually obtained had not been helpful for arriving at a definite conclusion. The Government have not, however, dropped the matter.

The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the correspondence on the table of the House.

" (*d*) No representation was sent to the Union Government as assumed in the question, but while sending a reply to that Government regarding a reference from them, this Government requested them in June 1954 to use their good offices in the matter of supply to this Government of full and correct information by Mysore regarding the capacity of and the use of waters in the works in the Palar basin in Mysore limits. This Government are now considering a proposal to request the

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Government of India to constitute a council under Article 263 of the Constitution of India to make enquiries into the matter and suggest suitable remedies. The proposal envisages the council being comprised of persons not belonging to either of the two States involved.

" (e) A memorandum on the subject setting forth the resolutions passed at the North Arcot-Chingleput Ryots' Conference held at Kaveripakkam on 26th December 1954, has been received in January 1955. After examination it is proposed to address the Government of India as stated above."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Have the Government investigated into the complaint voiced on the floor of the House by the ex-Chief Minister Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar with regard to this question, Sir, that Palar water is being directed to more lakes within Mysore than were stipulated in the 1892 agreement referred to by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" For the last three decades this question has been engaging the attention of this Government and there is no positive proof for the Government to establish the fact that they have violated the provisions of the agreement."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" I want to make a submission. The question is very important, but the reply is rather lengthy. Therefore, Members may not try to put supplementary questions unless the reply is placed on the table of the House. Further, the Minister's speech was a little bit terrific so much so that we could not cope with the speed. Therefore, I request him to place the reply on the table of the House tomorrow so that Members may be able to put supplementary questions."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" We may have this matter discussed at length on the floor of this House in the form of a half-hour debate."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Let the Hon. Minister reply to the suggestion made."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Regarding speed, this is the first time I hear that I have not been understood. I shall try to slow my speed."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" The reply is really important. But it has been a lengthy one."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It cannot be placed on the table of the House. As regards discussion, it is for the Hon. Chairman to decide."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" He is interested in speed."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" That is a different question."

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Have the Government any records to show that more water is being impounded now in Bethamangalam tank than what was allotted to Mysore under the agreement referred to by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" In respect of the Bethamangalam tank they raised the bund level by 9 feet with the concurrence and express approval of this Government in 1902 and they gave an assurance that they were doing that for the purpose of offset against drought years for storage, and in that case they would never draw beyond 72 m.c.ft. That agreement has not been violated. That is what the Government of India have also said recently."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I invite attention to the statement in the Mysore Gazetteer itself that the entire water of the Palar is being intercepted within Mysore and in view of the fact that more than 75,000 acres under the Palar basin this side require water from the Palar, may I know whether the Government have sought a solution to this problem by negotiation with the Mysore Government by high-level Ministerial talks as they have successfully done in the case of Periyar waters with the Travancore-Cochin Government? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" That is what we are trying to do. The point is we can only ask the Government of India to interfere under Article 263 of the Constitution of India to appoint an impartial body to inquire into the whole question and that we are proposing to do now. We cannot do it ourselves. The Mysore Government are saying that they have not violated the agreement. They are at a standstill now. The only course open to us is to make a proposal to the Government of India to appoint a body to go into this question."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know whether the present reference to the Central Government on this Palar question relates to Palar only or is it a general reference to set up a council under Article 263 of the Constitution to deal with all such cases? " 11-20 a.m.

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Only with reference to the Palar question."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Will not the Government take this up as a general question in view of the necessity for pooling the water resources in South Indian States so that we can utilize all the available waters of the rivers in South India to the maximum extent possible instead of allowing them to go waste into the sea? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, we need not apprehend any difficulty with reference to other questions. As and when they arise, they can be efficiently tackled. So long as Article 263 is there, we need not worry."

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SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI :—" இந்தப் பாலாறு சம்பந்தமாக செக்ஷன் 263-ப்படி மத்திய அர்சாங்கத்திற்கு எழுதியாகிவிட்டதா ? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We propose to address them."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Do the Government know that three gold mines in Kolar have been closed down and that the water used by those mines has been impounded by the Mysore State? Further, to-day's papers carry the news that most of the mining activities in Mysore State will come to an end because of the royalty imposed by the Government being doubled, and it is likely that the water used by them also may be impounded by the Mysore State? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We have no information about these things. Only the Council we have asked for can go into all this."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Considering the great importance of this matter, may I suggest that we have a half-hour discussion on this subject so that we can know and appreciate the present position clearly? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" May I say a word, Sir? This is an inter-State problem and I do not think any discussion here will lead to any solution. It may be left to the Government to tackle it as best as they can. Perhaps a discussion here may create further difficulties."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I do not think any discussion will help as the Hon. the Finance Minister has said. We can have as many supplementaries as we want. Any half-hour discussion will not enable the Government to arrive at any agreement with the other State."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I ask whether the Government of India are sympathetic with regard to the position taken up by the Government of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I am not a mind-reader."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Where is the need for a half-hour debate, when there is not even one more supplementary forthcoming? " (Laughter.)

Supply of water from Mysore State into Palar river for irrigation in North Arcot and Chingleput districts.

* 275 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government from the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the North